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Application No. 10/719,692 Attorney Docket No. 6539.00167 Confirmation No. 1902

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing replaces all prior version and listing of claims in the application:

Claims 1-7: Cancelled

8. (Currently Amended): A method of identifying a modulator of a TGR183 polypeptide that has G-protein coupled receptor activity, and is activated by nicotinic acid, and (A) comprises at least 70% amine acid sequence identity to SEQ-ID-NO:6, (B) comprises at least 20 contiguous amine-acids of SEQ-ID-NO:6, or (C) comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID-NO:6; wherein the method comprises:

contacting a compound with a recombinant TGR183 said polypeptide; and

determining the level of binding of nicotinic acid to the TGR183 polypeptide in comparison to the level of binding between nicotinic acid and said polypeptide in the an absence of said compound.

- 9. (Original): The method of claim 8, wherein the step of determining the level of binding comprises detecting nicotinic acid binding in a competitive binding assay.
- 10. (Currently amended): The method of claim 8, wherein the step of determining the level of binding comprises detecting an alteration in a nicotinic acid-induced TGR183 activity of said polypeptide.
- 11. (Currently amended): The method of claim 10, wherein the nicotinic acid-induced TGR183 activity is an increase in intracellular calcium.

Claims 12-32: Cancelled